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## Attorneys for USACM Liquidating Trust

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

In re:

USA Commercial Mortgage Company,  
Debtors

Case No. BK-S-06-10725-LBR

CHAPTER 11

## **USACM Liquidating Trust Quarterly Report for Period Ending September 30, 2012**

The USACM Liquidating Trust Quarterly Report by Geoffrey Berman, Trustee for period ending September 30, 2012, is attached hereto. For ease of reference, a copy of the report has been posted on the USACM Liquidating Trust's website:  
<http://usacmcucc.bmcgroup.com>.

DATED: November 20, 2012.

LEWIS AND ROCA LLP

By: /s/ Robert M. Charles, Jr. (#6593)  
Robert M. Charles, Jr. NV 6593  
*Counsel for USACM Liquidating Trust*

**QUARTERLY POST-CONFIRMATION REPORT OF  
GEOFFREY L. BERMAN, TRUSTEE  
USACM LIQUIDATING TRUST**

**October 2012**



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**QUARTERLY POST-CONFIRMATION REPORT OF  
GEOFFREY L. BERMAN, TRUSTEE  
USACM LIQUIDATING TRUST**

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As Trustee, I have continued to focus the efforts of the USACM Liquidating Trust (the "Trust") during the period July 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012 on:

- administration of the Trust;
- efficient conclusion of the USA Commercial Mortgage Company ("USACM") estate;
- investigation, prosecution and settlement of causes of action against potential recovery targets including settlement of the non-dischargeability claim against Joe Milanowski and Thomas Hantges;
- collection of other assets;
- claims analysis and resolution of disputed claims;
- preparation for a second creditor distribution; and
- Placer receivership issues.

These and other topics are briefly described in this report, along with comments on the financial statement of the Trust.<sup>1</sup>

**I. TRUST ADMINISTRATION**

**A. Website**

The Trust continues to use the following website address:

<http://usacmcucc.bmcgroup.com>. We invite suggestions for content on the Trust's website.

**B. Trust Extension**

The Trust recognized that in light of the appeal pending in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in its litigation against Deloitte that the Trust would expire by its express terms on March 11, 2012. The Trustee therefore obtained the approval of the Trust Committee to seek an extension of the Trust's expiration for one year, to March 11, 2013. The

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<sup>1</sup> The Trust's financial statement is provided only to the Office of the United States Trustee and the Trust Committee.

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bankruptcy court approved that extension upon the Trust's motion, which was heard on March 1, 2012. Because the Deloitte appeal has not been resolved, and other assets, principally claims or judgments and the servicer advance and related rights concerning Placer Vineyards Land Speculators have not been liquidated, the Trust will seek another one year extension. The Trust Committee concurs with this request

**C. Trust Committee**

The Trust functions with a Trust Committee created by the Debtors' Third Amended Plan of Reorganization as modified and the Trust Agreement. The current members of the Trust Committee are Donald Walker, James Bonfiglio, Michael Tucker (in his capacity as Administrator of the USA Capital Diversified Trust Deed Fund, LLC ("DTDF")), Suzanne Nounna, and Janet Chubb and Ken Bonnet, a client representative from the Kehl family (jointly). The Trust Committee meets by telephone conference call in regularly scheduled meetings to discuss the status of the Trust, the Trustee's prior quarterly reports, and other issues. Regular communication between the Trust and the Trust Committee members is maintained by telephone calls and e-mails. The Trust held a regularly scheduled (telephonic) meeting on October 17, 2012.

**D. Trust Staff and Counsel**

The Trustee is employed by Development Specialists, Inc. ("DSI").<sup>2</sup> The Trustee uses DSI staff to administer the Trust, investigate the assets and liabilities of the Trust, and to support the litigation described below.

In addition, and as has previously been reported, the Trustee selected Robert M. Charles, Jr.<sup>3</sup> and Susan M. Freeman<sup>4</sup> of Lewis and Roca LLP, prior counsel to the USACM Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, as its counsel. Other attorneys at that firm assist the Trust as well, including John Hinderaker, who directs claims and other Trust specific litigation.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Information about Mr. Berman is available from the DSI website at <http://www.dsi.biz/onestaff.asp?id=39>.

<sup>3</sup> Information about Mr. Charles is available from the Lewis and Roca LLP website at [http://www.lrlaw.com/professional\\_bio.asp?ProfessionalID=165](http://www.lrlaw.com/professional_bio.asp?ProfessionalID=165).

<sup>4</sup> Information about Ms. Freeman is available from the Lewis and Roca LLP website at [http://www.lrlaw.com/professional\\_bio.asp?ProfessionalID=92](http://www.lrlaw.com/professional_bio.asp?ProfessionalID=92).

<sup>5</sup> Information about Mr. Hinderaker is available from the Lewis and Roca LLP website at [http://www.lewisandroca.com/professional\\_bio.asp?ProfessionalID=369](http://www.lewisandroca.com/professional_bio.asp?ProfessionalID=369).

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Separate litigation counsel, Allan Diamond<sup>6</sup> and Eric Madden<sup>7</sup> of Diamond McCarthy LLP, Houston, TX, was selected by the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors and approved by the Court in January 2007, whose retention was assumed by the Trust upon the Effective Date of the Plan and the Trust.

**E. BMC Access to Court Docket**

The Trust has paid the monthly expense charged by BMC to maintain public access to the docket of the USACM jointly administered bankruptcy cases since the Effective Date of the confirmed Plan. While those dockets, and the associated claim information, are available to the public for a fee through PACER, the Trust continues to believe that the Court and creditors are better served by the Trust bearing that expense, particularly as the Trust addresses the large number of direct lender proof of claim objections.

**F. Creditor Inquiries**

Both the Trustee and the Trust's counsel receive frequent inquiries from direct lenders concerning servicing, tax issues, pre-paid interest and other questions related to their interests in the Trust. Both the Trustee and the counsel have made every effort to respond to each such inquiry, although often the Trust is not in a position to provide a specific answer, since the Trust cannot provide lenders with legal or tax advice. The Trustee and counsel also make every effort to respond on a timely basis to direct lenders and other creditors with questions related to objections to loans and claims as those objections are being processed. The Trust has also been addressing questions from direct lenders who have received checks for their recently allowed claims, as a result of the continuing process of addressing the remaining disputed direct lender proofs of claim.

**II. USACM ISSUES**

USACM continued to wind up its affairs and file monthly reports of those efforts with the bankruptcy court. USACM has been dissolved under Nevada law, with Thomas Allison of MFIM responsible for winding up its affairs.

The Trust continues to monitor the liquidation of USACM under the direction of Mr. Allison and its pre-effective date counsel. USACM files periodic operating reports disclosing its status of assets and liabilities, payments and obligations incurred. USACM also holds reserves for certain unresolved claims as well as unresolved expenses of administration. Mr. Allison and Susan Smith of MFIM have been deposed in various

<sup>6</sup> Information about Mr. Diamond is available from the Diamond McCarthy website at <http://www.diamondmccarthy.com/adiamond.html>.

<sup>7</sup> Information about Mr. Madden is available from the Diamond McCarthy website at <http://www.diamondmccarthy.com/emadden.html>.

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litigation matters, which time and expense is billed to the remaining administrative reserve MFIM maintains for USACM. Those expenses are likely to be incurred until the Trust and the Securities and Exchange Commission litigation matters have been completed. Any excess of the funds in escrow over the claims paid would be assets of the Trust. The Trust reached an agreement with USACM as to the payment of the majority of the remaining reserves being held by USACM. Payment of the agreed upon amount occurred around June 30, 2011.

As of its May 2012 report, USACM in liquidation continued to hold approximately \$92,000 for final wind up expenses. USACM has agreed to turn over the balance to the Trust once the final expenses have been incurred. MFIM wrapped up the affairs for USACM in liquidation around August 2012 and transferred its remaining funds to the Trust at that time.

On September 26, 2012, USACM in liquidation filed its Motion to Close Case and Request for Final Decree Effective September 30, 2012 [DE 9846]. After consultation with the Trust, USACM agreed to and on October 5, 2012 [DE 9849] did withdraw the motion. The Trust has agreed to pay the expenses of keeping the USACM bankruptcy case open for the foreseeable future pending disposition of the remaining material assets. A hearing on the motion to close the case was vacated when the motion was withdrawn.

**III. INVESTIGATING AND PROSECUTING CAUSES OF ACTION AGAINST POTENTIAL TARGET DEFENDANTS**

**A. Diamond McCarthy**

Diamond McCarthy as special litigation counsel to the Trust actively conducted formal and informal discovery of files, witnesses and transactions since its informal engagement in January 2007, which was formalized once the Plan went effective in March 2007. The goals were to develop and then prosecute causes of action against insiders and third parties to recover damages for the benefit of creditors. In addition, special litigation counsel identified assets diverted by insiders and their affiliates so that the assets can be recovered to generate payment for creditors. Diamond McCarthy continues to coordinate those efforts with others, including DTDF, the USA Investment Partners, LLC (“USAIP”) Trustee (Lisa Poulin), and the bankruptcy trustees for Hantges and Milanowski mentioned below. Many witnesses were deposed or interviewed and tens of thousands of pages of documents have been reviewed. Further, Diamond McCarthy continues to coordinate efforts with various federal and state governmental agencies, including the FBI, U.S. Attorney’s Office for Las Vegas, and the SEC. Diamond McCarthy maintains a confidential work product database that has been instrumental in helping the Trust coordinate discovery requests and responses at lower cost. Diamond McCarthy is lead counsel on the bulk of the Trust’s litigation described below.

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Certain members of Diamond McCarthy left the firm in December 2009 forming Reid Davis LLP (now Reid Collins Tsai LLP). Bill Reid and Lisa Tsai, along with others now at Reid Davis, were the primary attorneys on the Wells Fargo Bank litigation (see below). The Trust, in conjunction with the Manager of DTDF, agreed that the continued involvement of the Reid Davis lawyers, with those remaining at Diamond McCarthy, was appropriate in light of the critical phase the Wells Fargo Bank litigation was in at the time of those lawyers' change of firms. An agreement between Diamond McCarthy and Reid Davis was negotiated for the joint prosecution of the Wells Fargo Bank claim without additional expense to the Trust. Upon the conclusion of the Wells Fargo litigation, Reid Davis lawyers have ceased performing legal services to the Trust and/or DTDF.

**B. Pending Actions**

The Trust had the benefit of a two-year tolling period under Bankruptcy Code § 108 to bring many claims and causes of action owned by USACM on the date of its bankruptcy filing. The two-year anniversary of the bankruptcy filing was April 13, 2008. The Trust filed numerous causes of action before this deadline. Lawsuits were filed against the following:

<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Defendant</u>
07-01154	J. M. K. Investments Ltd., et al. <sup>8</sup>
08-01114	Shober Consulting, Inc. <sup>9</sup>
08-01115	Bob Stupak <sup>10</sup>
08-01116	Greenwald, Pauly, Foster & Miller <sup>11</sup>
08-01117	David Rentz <sup>12</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> The Trust continues to seek to collect the various stipulated judgments and recently conducted post judgment debtor examinations against certain judgment debtors. The Trust is currently in the process of filing suit in Nevada against Dr. Edwards and a related entity to enforce payment of his judgment amount. There are a couple of other smaller judgments outstanding with efforts underway to collect the amounts due.

<sup>9</sup> The Trust's adversary complaint against Shober Consulting, Inc. has been settled.

<sup>10</sup> The adversary proceeding against Bob Stupak was dismissed with prejudice on the motion of the Trust filed on October 28, 2008.

<sup>11</sup> The Trustee entered into a settlement agreement and general release with Greenwald, Pauly, Foster & Miller of the causes of action asserted in adv. No. 08-01116-lbr.

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<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Defendant</u>
08-01118	Jerry Cadeski <sup>13</sup>
08-01119	Robert A. Russell; Deborah Russell; Russell A. Development Group, LLC; Freeway 101 Investors, LLC; Freeway 101 Loop RAR Investment, LLC; Boise/Gowen, LLC; BG/93 Investments, LLC; Copper Sage Commerce Center, LLC; Der NV Invesco, LLC; SVRB Investments, LLC <sup>14</sup>
08-01120	Gentile De Palma Ltd. <sup>15</sup>
08-01121	Fertitta Enterprises, Inc. <sup>16</sup>
08-01122	J.M.K Investments, Ltd., John M. Keilly, Mountain West Mortgage LLC <sup>17</sup>
08-01123	Fiesta Development, Inc.; Ashby USA, LLC; Richard K. Ashby; Random Developments, LLC; Ashby Development Company, Inc. <sup>18</sup>
08-01124	Homes for America Holdings, Inc.; HFAH Clearlake, LLC; One Point Street Inc.; Mediterranee-HFAH, LLC <sup>19</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> The adversary proceeding against David Rentz was dismissed on the Trust's stipulation on September 30, 2008.

<sup>13</sup> The Trust's lawsuit against Jerry Cadeski was dismissed on February 3, 2009.

<sup>14</sup> The Trustee settled this cause of action.

<sup>15</sup> On August 5, 2008, the Trust amended its complaint. The Trust entered into a settlement agreement with Dominic P. Gentile, providing for an agreed obligation, deferred payments, backed up by a stipulated judgment if the payments were not timely made. The defendant performed as agreed under the settlement and the case has been dismissed.

<sup>16</sup> The matter is settled.

<sup>17</sup> This matter was settled with Court approval. The Trust continues to seek to collect a judgment. Thomas Jurbala, the principal of Mountain West Mortgage recently filed a bankruptcy case in Las Vegas; collectability of the amount due from Mr. Jurbala is very questionable.

<sup>18</sup> After prosecution of the litigation, and then extensive negotiations, this case was settled and judgment was entered on June 30, 2009.

<sup>19</sup> In the adversary proceeding against Homes for America Holdings, Inc. et al, the parties reached agreement on a settlement after discovery. The settlement involves agreed Judgments in a joint and several amount of \$2,900,000.00 (the "Agreed Judgments")

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<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Defendant</u>
08-01125 2:09-cv-01947	Monaco Diversified Corporation; Anthony Monaco; Susan K. Monaco; Eagle Ranch Residential, LLC; Eagle Ranch, LLC; Willowbrook Residential, LLC; Brentwood 128, LLC; Ravenswood Apple Valley, LLC <sup>20</sup>
08-01126	James Cioffi Architect Corporation <sup>21</sup>
08-01127	Amesburyport Corporation <sup>22</sup>
08-01128	K&S Properties (Minden) <sup>23</sup>
08-01129	Tanamera Resort Partners, LLC <sup>24</sup>

which will be held in escrow as described below. The Responsible Defendants pay the USACM Trust \$7,500.00 per month, for 12 months, and \$60,000.00 in month 13. In consideration of these payments the USACM Trust agrees not to execute on the Agreed Judgments for 18 months. However, if the Responsible Defendants miss a payment the USACM Trust can execute on the Agreed Judgments immediately. The USACM Trust will execute limited releases of all Defendants that become effective upon full satisfaction of the Agreed Judgments.

<sup>20</sup> The Trust entered into a stipulated judgment with Anthony Monaco, Susan K. Monaco and Monaco Diversified Corporation which the Court approved. The Trust has been actively trying to collect on the judgment, and which efforts have been hampered until recently by concerns of the California courts as to the ability to enforce those collection efforts without the consent of the Nevada District Court; that consent was obtained in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2011 and renewed efforts to collect on the Monaco's assets has begun. The Trust obtained the appointment of a Receiver to enforce the judgment and the Receiver is now taking the appropriate steps to marshall the Monacos' assets and work to satisfy the judgment due the Trust.

<sup>21</sup> On December 2, 2008, the Trust dismissed its claims against James Cioffi Architect Corporation and the adversary case was then closed.

<sup>22</sup> On October 28, 2009, the Court approved the Trust's settlement with the defendant. The Trust and defendant Amesburyport Corporation filed a stipulation to entry of agreed judgment on December 30, 2009. The Trust obtained judgment for over \$2.8 million against the defendant.

<sup>23</sup> After investigation, the Trust sought dismissal of the adversary proceeding against K&S Properties, adversary No. 08-1128. The stipulation for dismissal was filed in August 2008 and granted by the Court thereafter.

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<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Defendant</u>
08-01130	Phillips USA LLC <sup>25</sup>
08-01131	Bingham McCutcheon, LLP <sup>26</sup>
08-01132 2:09-cv-01946	Stanley E. Fulton <sup>27</sup>
08-01133	Kathryn L. Petersen; Kathryn L. Petersen Living Trust; KLP Trust dated 7/15/99; Specialized Development Tahoe, LLC <sup>28</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> In the Trust's litigation with Tanamera Resort Partners, L.L.C., the parties reached agreement on a settlement subject to court approval.

<sup>25</sup> In the adversary proceeding against Philips USA LLC, the court entered its default judgment on December 24, 2008 for \$425,000, together with pre- and post-judgment interest. The Trust will seek to collect the judgment.

<sup>26</sup> The Trust's lawsuit resulted in the grant of summary judgment in favor of the Trust. The bankruptcy court concluded that USACM's wire transfer of \$200,000 to Defendant, law firm Bingham McCutchen ("Bingham"), was a fraudulent and thus avoidable transfer under 11 U.S.C. § 548. Bingham appealed to the district court, now case 2:09-cv-01608-RLH-LRL. The district court affirmed the bankruptcy court on June 4, 2010 and Bingham appealed to the Ninth Circuit. Oral argument was heard by the appellate court on June 14, 2011 and the Court rendered its decision upholding the grant of summary judgment on June 23, 2011. Bingham McCutchen has since paid the affirmed judgment and accrued interest.

<sup>27</sup> Plaintiff is DTDF. The bankruptcy court's findings of fact and conclusions of law were affirmed on appeal to the district court, case no. 2:09-cv-01946-RLH-LRL. The Stanley Fulton matter was settled in late June 2010 as a result of various pre-trial rulings that provided an opportunity for the parties to resolve the matter without the need for trial. The case was formally closed in October, 2011.

<sup>28</sup> Plaintiff is DTDF. In the adversary proceeding, the parties reached a settlement and the case was dismissed by stipulation.

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<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Defendant</u>
08-01134	Mary Petersen; Mary Petersen Family Trust dated 8/12/98; Michael D. Petersen; Michael D. Petersen Family Trust dated 8/12/98; Kathryn L. Petersen; Kathryn L. Petersen Living Trust; KLP Trust dated 7/15/99 <sup>29</sup>
08-01135	Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. <sup>30</sup>
08-01164	Beadle, McBride, Evans & Reeves, LLP; Reeves, Evans, McBride & Zhang, LLP; TG McBride, CPA Ltd.; T. Garth McBride <sup>31</sup>
08-0112 2:09-cv-02130	David A. Fogg <sup>32</sup>

Additionally, a complaint was filed in the United States District Court for the District of Nevada, as follows:

<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Plaintiffs</u>	<u>Defendants</u>
2:08-CV-461	Trust and DTDF	Deloitte & Touche, LLP; <sup>33</sup> Victoria Loob <sup>34</sup>

These actions were prosecuted in order to recover funds for the Trust beneficiaries and DTDF.

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<sup>29</sup> Plaintiffs are the Trust and DTDF. In the adversary proceeding, the parties reached a settlement and the case was dismissed by stipulation.

<sup>30</sup> Plaintiffs are the Trust, DTDF and FTDF. This is not an avoidance action. The Wells Fargo Bank matter had a directed verdict in favor of the Bank issued in early August 2010 which was affirmed by the district court. No appeal of this decision was taken.

<sup>31</sup> Plaintiffs are the Trust and DTDF. See below.

<sup>32</sup> Plaintiffs are the Trust and DTDF. Mr. Fogg asserted a counterclaim. The matter was settled and placed in abeyance to allow the parties to document and perform the settlement.

<sup>33</sup> The district court granted Deloitte's summary judgment motions in a decision dated February 16, 2011. That ruling has been appealed by the Trust to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The matter is fully briefed. Oral argument has not yet been scheduled.

<sup>34</sup> The action has been dismissed against Ms. Loob.

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**IV. PRESERVING INSIDER ASSETS AND ADVOCATING TRUST  
INTERESTS IN OTHER BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS**

**A. USAIP Chapter 11 Case**

USAIP was the maker of a \$58,374,918.81 promissory note (the “\$58 Million Note”) to USACM for the benefit of creditors (including DTDF). Repayment of the \$58 Million Note and other obligations of USAIP were secured by liens on USAIP’s interest in entities owned or in part by USAIP.<sup>35</sup> The Trust also claimed equitable ownership rights in some assets titled in such entities and they may be a source of value to satisfy damages claims. USAIP is a debtor in a bankruptcy case pending in Nevada (case #07-11821-LBR).

Over the objection of Hantges and Milanowski, through counsel, the bankruptcy court (Honorable Linda B. Riegle) entered an order directing the United States Trustee to appoint an interim trustee for USAIP. Lisa M. Poulin was appointed and continues to serve as trustee. She selected Gordon Silver of Las Vegas, Nevada as her counsel, with the Court’s approval.

**1. Proofs of Claim**

On behalf of the Trust, Diamond McCarthy timely filed a proof of claim seeking \$158,900,000 from the USAIP estate on behalf of the Trust.

**2. USAIP Related Issues**

As Lisa Poulin identified USAIP subsidiaries in need of bankruptcy protection, bankruptcy cases were filed, she was appointed trustee, and the cases were jointly administered. These include: USAIP; USA Investors VI, LLC, Case No. 07-12377; Tree Moss Partners, LL, Case No. 06-13758; HMA Sales, LLC, Case No. 07-12694; Capital Land Investors, LLC, Case No. 07-18099; Oak Mesa Investors, LLC, Case No. 08-10397; and Buffalo Land Development Co., LLC, Case No. 08-10398.

The USAIP bankruptcy case was concluded in late December 2011, with the remnant assets in the estate being divided among the Trust and DTDF. Prior to that, on September 30, 2011, USAIP filed its Disclosure Statement to Accompany Chapter 11

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<sup>35</sup> Capital Land Investors, LLC, a California limited liability company; Ashby USA, LLC, a California limited liability company; Placer County Land Investors, LLC a California limited liability company (f/k/a Placer County Land Speculators, LLC); Oak Mesa Investors, LLC, a California limited liability company; HMA Sales, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; Tanamera Properties, LLC; Random Developments, LLC, a California limited liability company; and Buffalo Land Developments, LLC, a California limited liability company.

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Trustee's Plan of Reorganization [DE 1481] and its Chapter 11 Trustee's Plan of Reorganization [DE 1480] (the "Liquidating Plan"). The Liquidating Plan was prepared in consultation with the Trust and DTDF and the Trust's limited objections were timely addressed by the USAIP Trustee and her counsel, to the Trust's satisfaction. The Trust supported the Liquidating Plan. The Liquidating Plan was confirmed by the Court's November 9, 2011 order.

Pursuant to the Liquidating Plan, USACM received a payment of \$12,500 on account of its secured claim and \$234,210.88 on account of the trust's allowed general unsecured claim. Final fee applications for USAIP professional were considered and approved by the Court. The Liquidating Plan became effective and pursuant to the confirmed plan, USAIP's membership interest in DTDF was transferred to DTDF and the Trust pro rata, as was USAIP's interest in Opaque Land Development, LLC ("Opaque"). Thereafter, Opaque sold its real estate and proceeds were realized by DTDF and USACM. In a post-confirmation report filed on December 14, 2011, USAIP indicated it had distributed all of its funds to creditors pursuant to the confirmed plan. Thereafter, USAIP sought authority for entry of a final decree closing the USAIP bankruptcy case. Opaque was also dissolved in accordance with state law. The bankruptcy court entered an order on December 20, 2011, closing the USAIP case. Some miscellaneous assets were discovered by USAIP's counsel and the Trust has received its pro-rata share of those since during the first quarter of 2012.

**B. Insiders – Thomas Hantges and Joseph Milanowski**

**1. Hantges**

Due to the actions of the Trust, the Administrator of the DTDF and other creditors, Thomas A. Hantges was a debtor in a chapter 11 bankruptcy case in Nevada, Case No. 07-13163-lbr. Michael Carmel was appointed trustee in the Hantges bankruptcy.

The Trust timely filed a proof of claim against the Hantges estate seeking the amount of \$305,000,000.

On February 11, 2008, the Trust through Diamond McCarthy filed a complaint to determine non-dischargeability of debt against Hantges, assigned Adversary No. 08-01042-lbr. Hantges has answered the complaint. Similar lawsuits were filed against Hantges by DTDF (No. 08-01041), the Kehl family (No. 08-01040), and the United States Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation ("PBGC") (No. 08-01039).

The Trust reached a settlement with Mr. Milanowski, since approved by the Court, wherein an agreed judgment was entered against Mr. Milanowski in the amount of \$5.0 million. That judgment is subordinate to the restitution order arising out of Mr. Milanowski's plea agreement with the U.S. Government, in the amount of \$86.9 million. The Hantges matter was scheduled for trial in late June 2011, however an agreement

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regarding non-dischargeability of the claims against Mr. Hantges was reached that avoided the necessity for that trial. Mr. Hantges waived his discharge as to all claims.

The Trust provided limited post-petition financing to the Hantges estate pursuant to a loan approved by the bankruptcy court. In an amendment, the Trust agreed to increase the amount of the loan to \$2,000,000. The purpose of the loan was to enable the Hantges trustee to collect assets owed to the Hantges creditors, including the Trust. The Trust received a significant pay-down on the post-petition financing as the result of the settlement of the Trust and the Hantges estate's claims against Lucius Blanchard (see below) and others. Interest was paid current to October 31, 2009. The administration of the Hantges chapter 11 was concluded and the case was converted to one under Chapter 7. The professional fees for the Chapter 11 trustee and counsel were addressed in a series of hearings in the Fall of 2010. The Hantges estate obligation to the Trust continues to bear interest and be secured by a first priority lien on all unencumbered assets of the Hantges estate, and a junior lien on any encumbered assets, as well as a super-priority administrative claim, to the extent any additional assets can be located and liquidated.

The Trust and the Trustee for the Hantges estate entered into an agreement for prosecution of claims by the Trust against Lucius Blanchard, the Blanchard Children's Trust, Palomino Partners and Thomas A. Hantges with respect to the transfers to and assets of the alleged Trust. The lawsuit was filed by the Trust on August 25, 2008 at Case No. 08-01268.<sup>36</sup> The Hantges estate also retained the Trust's special litigation counsel – Diamond McCarthy – to prosecute certain actions on behalf of the Hantges estate. The Trustee sought and obtained approval of employment of Diamond McCarthy.

In the adversary proceeding brought by Mr. Carmel as trustee for the Hantges estate, No. 08-01002, Lucius Blanchard, individually and as trustee of the Hantges Children's Education Trust, the parties engaged in discovery and negotiated a settlement for all causes of action in July 2009. The settlement of the actions, along with the allocation of the settlement proceeds between the estates, was approved by the Bankruptcy Court on October 5, 2009. As a result, the Hantges Trustee made a substantial pay down to the loan from the Trust from his estate's share of the settlement.

The Hantges estate's professionals, including the firm of Steptoe & Johnson, filed applications for approval of fee applications and reimbursement of expenses. Those applications were heard on June 15, 2010. The application of Steptoe & Johnson, as counsel to the estate, was objected to by the Office of the United States Trustee; the USACM Trust filed a "response" to that application but did not formally object. As a result of the arguments at the hearing, the Trust negotiated a significant reduction in the Steptoe & Johnson fee application. The reduced application was approved by the court,

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<sup>36</sup> The bankruptcy court entered an order on October 14, 2009 approving settlement of the claims in this suit.

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with the Trust obligated to and did fund \$250,000 in available funds under the existing DIP financing. No monies over and above that additional advance will be made. The Hantges estate presently owes the Trust approximately \$1.25 million; no further payments against this obligation are expected from the Hantges estate.

After completely administering the Chapter 7 Case, the Hantges Trustee sought entry of an order resolving the case on August 8, 2011. No objections were filed. On August 23, 2011, the Court entered its Final Decree and Order Closing Chapter 7 Case and Discharging and Exonerating Chapter 7 Trustee Bond [DE 966]. The Trust has received \$24,963.18 as the final repayment on the Court-approved loan from the Hantges Trustee; a small refund was received from the Hantges Chapter 11 Trustee early in 2012.

The obligations of Hantges to the Trust having been determined non-dischargeable, the Trust filed a complaint in Nevada for the purpose of liquidating the non-dischargeable debt. That action is captioned *USACM Liquidating Trust v. Thomas A. Hantges*, and is case No. A-11-642779-B, pending in the District Court in Clark County, Nevada. The Trust intends to prosecute the action efficiently and without undue expense. Mr. Hantges agreed to a stipulated judgment in the Clark County action.

**2. Milanowski**

Joseph Milanowski became a debtor in a chapter 11 bankruptcy case in Nevada, Case No. 07-13162-lbr, as a result of the Trust, DTDF and others joining in bringing an involuntary bankruptcy petition against Milanowski. The Court entered an order for relief against Milanowski and appointed Ford Elsaesser as the trustee in the Milanowski case.

The Trust filed a proof of claim through Diamond McCarthy against Milanowski for \$305,000,000. The claim includes Milanowski's guarantees of the debts of Placer County Land Speculators, LLC to the Placer 1 and Placer 2 Direct Lenders on the loans that the Trust is servicing.

The Trust through Diamond McCarthy filed a complaint in the bankruptcy court, Adv. No. 08-01093-lbr, to determine the dischargeability of Milanowski's debts to the Trust. As noted above, a settlement was reached with Mr. Milanowski wherein an agreed judgment, approved by the Court, was entered as a non-dischargeable debt in the amount of \$5.0 million.

The Trust continues to cooperate with federal, state and local officials investigating USACM. On April 23, 2008, the SEC brought an action against Joseph Milanowski "in connection with a multi-million dollar fraud" seeking an order requiring Milanowski to disgorge sums obtained. The Trust is not prosecuting this action. The complaint was filed with the United States District for the District of Nevada and is Case No. 2:08-CV-00511. The Trust continues to monitor the SEC's litigation.

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Mr. Milanowski entered into a plea agreement with the United States in a criminal case pending in Nevada, No. 2:07-CR-00291. Mr. Milanowski's plea agreement was accepted by the court and Mr. Milanowski was sentenced to twelve years incarceration, five years of supervised release post-incarceration; and as an additional condition of his sentence, Mr. Milanowski was ordered to continue to cooperate with the bankruptcy trustees and counsel in the prosecution of the remaining litigation matters. Failure to cooperate would be deemed a violation of Mr. Milanowski's supervised release and would subject him to imprisonment in addition to the twelve year sentence. Mr. Milanowski reported to the Department of Corrections to begin his sentence on August 6, 2010. There is also a restitution order requiring payment of \$86.9 million to the victims of the wire fraud. Mr. Milanowski's sentence was reduced to a term of eight years by order of the District Court early in 2012, as a result of his cooperation with the Government and the Trust in the continuing efforts to generate value for creditors.

The Trust continued to monitor the prosecution of the bankruptcy case of Joseph Milanowski by Ford Elsaesser, the court-appointed trustee. The Milanowski estate has now retired the Trust's loan. Various adversary proceedings against Milanowski were continued to a status hearing, including the Trust's non-dischargeability complaint against Milanowski.

Similar to the Hantges estate, Mr. Elsaesser filed a motion to convert the Chapter 11 case to Chapter 7. The bankruptcy court approved the motion and the case is now being administered as a Chapter 7 liquidation.

The United States Trustee filed a complaint objecting to Milanowski's discharge under Bankruptcy Code § 727. The Trust is not a party to this action. The U.S. Trustee's complaint has been suspended pending the results of other ancillary litigation and Mr. Milanowski's cooperation therein.

### C. HMA Sales, LLC

The Trust filed a proof of claim in the HMA Sales, LLC bankruptcy case, where Lisa Poulin is the trustee. Claim No. 47 was in the sum of \$4,832,123.96. Because of disputes as to liability, and more importantly, limited assets of the estate and competing claims, the Trust carefully negotiated a resolution of the proof of claim and the HMA Sales Trustee's objection. Ms. Poulin and the Trust reached an agreement which was reduced to writing and filed with the bankruptcy case in case No. 07-12694. The agreement approved by the bankruptcy court allowed the Trust's claim at \$1,500,000, but provided for purposes of distribution that the Trust would receive only 50% of funds distributed to holders of unsecured claims until the allowed claim was paid in full. Thus, the relative size of the Trust's claim was reduced for distribution purposes. The stipulation was filed with the court on October 28, 2008 and approved by the court that same date.

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The Trust continues to monitor resolution of the bankruptcy case by Ms. Poulin as trustee. Recently, Ms. Poulin sought bankruptcy court authority to distribute the remaining assets of the HMA Sales estate to DTDF after payment of administrative expenses and priority claims.

The Bankruptcy Court entered its Order Confirming Chapter 11 Trustee's Plan of Reorganization on February 20, 2008. The effective date of the Plan was March 3, 2008. All distributions have been made under the confirmed Plan. On October 4, 2011, the Court entered its Final Decree and Order Closing Bankruptcy Case [DE 1247], which provided that the bankruptcy case was fully administered and therefore closed.

**D. Salvatore Reale**

Prior to the Effective Date, USACM sued Salvatore J. Reale, individually and as trustee of the Salvatore J. Reale Revocable Trust in the Bankruptcy Court. The adversary proceeding is Adv. No. 06-01251.

After a trial on January 31, 2008, the Bankruptcy Court determined on March 28, 2008 that judgment should be entered in favor of the Trust and against Mr. Reale for \$4 million, plus an award of the Trust's taxable costs. The Trust filed a motion seeking pre- and post-judgment interest, which motion was granted by the Bankruptcy Court after a hearing on May 8, 2008. The Trust obtained judgment on May 13, 2008.

The Trust continues to work on collection of the \$4 million judgment against Salvatore Reale, including seeking post-judgment discovery, filing a motion to compel compliance with the discovery requests, and negotiating with Mr. Reale on a possible settlement. Efforts to recover on the judgment are complicated by a temporary restraining order against Mr. Reale in another matter, as well as an obligation to the Internal Revenue Service and the fact that one of the borrowers to whom Mr. Reale made a loan has subsequently filed their own chapter 7 bankruptcy. Mr. Reale has cooperated with the Trust in efforts to recover from this borrower's bankruptcy estate and thereby reduce the outstanding judgment due the Trust however Mr. Reale still has made no payments in partial or full satisfaction of the judgment and has continuously advised that he has no ability to repay any portion of the judgment.

**E. JMK Investments**

On September 12, 2007, the Trust sued JMK Investments, Ltd. and a number of individual defendants seeking to avoid certain pre-petition transfers that aggregate to over \$4 million (Adv. No. 07-01154).

The Trust worked through its special litigation counsel at Diamond McCarthy LLP and accomplished, through settlement, several significant payments for the Trust. In connection with the adversary proceeding against JMK Investments, Ltd. et al, the Trust

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entered into a settlement agreement, subject to court approval, with JMK, Simon Family Trust, Steven Portnoff, JWB Investments, Inc., Brouwers Family LP, Larry C. Johns, Mary L. Johns, Paul Bolch Living Trust, Roni Amid, Robert M. Portnoff, Sarah Portnoff, Morningside Homes, Inc., Aurora Investments LP, Steven Janovitch, Linda Janovitch, First Savings Bank FBO Valliera McGuire, Marvin and Valliera Myers Trust, Larry J. Middleton, Jennifer Middleton, Alabruj Limited Partnership, and Francis Family Trust. Under the agreement, approved by the bankruptcy court after notice and an opportunity for hearing, Defendants will pay \$2,750,000 to the Trust. Payment by June 30, 2009 reduces the payment requirement to \$2,250,000. The JMK settlement was approved by the court's November 24, 2008 order.

In the adversary proceeding concerning J.M.K. Investments, Ltd., counsel for several of the defendants sought leave to withdraw and the matter was scheduled for hearing on February 20, 2009, and a status hearing was scheduled on March 20, 2009 at which the defendant Roni Amid was directed to appear personally. Counsel was allowed to withdraw and the status hearing was conducted on April 10, 2009 as to Roni Amid. Mr. Amid subsequently retained new counsel and after review of the settlement, has paid his pro-rate obligation under the settlement. A small number of the defendants chose not to pay the discounted amount and therefore had until September 30, 2009 to pay their respective obligations. None of those defendants made the required payments. The Trust obtained default judgments against each of the JMK Defendants that did not pay the discounted or full amount of the stipulated settlement payments. Those judgments have been recorded and efforts are underway to enforce collection of the judgment amounts. As noted above, the Trust recently completed judgment debtor examinations for the non-paying settlement parties and further actions to collect outstanding monies is ongoing.

Efforts continue to collect the judgment.<sup>37</sup> Defendants' counsel were granted leave to withdraw as counsel.

**F. Tree Moss Partners, LLC**

The Trust does not have a direct interest in Tree Moss Partners, LLC, which is also a debtor in bankruptcy due to an involuntary bankruptcy petition (Case No. 06-13758-LBR). Ms. Poulin has been appointed trustee for Tree Moss. Tree Moss owns the condominium project adjacent to the Hotel Zoso. USAIP's equity in this entity is not

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<sup>37</sup> It should be noted that the principal of Mountain West Mortgage, Thomas Jurbala, is a judgment debtor to the Trust as well and monies due from Mr. Jurbala, as well as Mountain West Mortgage, have gone unpaid. As noted above, Mr. Jurbala recently initiated a bankruptcy case in Las Vegas, NV. Collection of monies due the Trust from Mr. Jurbala is considered unlikely. The Trust has also initiated suit against Randy Edwards in conjunction with the judgment against Aurora Investments in the Nevada State Courts.

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pledged as collateral for the \$58 million Note. Ms. Poulin filed a motion to approve a sale of the Tree Moss assets, however the proposed sale fell through. Ms. Poulin has tried to sell the project on numerous occasions so far without success. The Trust filed a proof of unsecured claim for \$1,075,799.91 in the case, and continues to monitor progress of the case under Ms. Poulin's supervision as trustee. Pursuant to the most recent operating report filed for the period ending September 2012, the Trustee for Tree Moss held \$376,797 in its bank account and scheduled \$2,546,304 in post-petition liabilities.

**V. COLLECTION OF TRUST ASSETS**

**A. Reserves**

The Trust monitors certain reserves held by USACM through Mesirow Financial Interim Management, LLC ("MFIM"). These reserves are identified generally in Monthly Operating Reports filed by USACM, which are prepared by MFIM. Those reserves were held for certain claims, which have been resolved, as well as for the ongoing expenses of MFIM and Dorsey & Whitney on behalf of USACM in liquidation. (*See* Section II above.)

**B. Colt Loan**

USACM held a \$1 million second lien on property known as the Colt Gateway Property in Hartford, Connecticut, subject to a first lien held by DTDF, Fertitta Enterprises, Inc. and the estate of Daniel Tabas, and USACM held claims for servicing and other fees on that loan. The Trust continued to work with Michael A. Tucker, the administrator of DTDF, on collection of sums owed on the Colt loans. Proposals were received from Homes for America Holding, the developer of the project, for refinancing the project and addressing the outstanding debts, but those efforts failed. A successor developer also sought to resolve the issues prohibiting completion of the development, however that developer has not had any greater success in completing the project than Homes for America Holding had.

The Trust continues to monitor collection of certain loans involving Colt in the Colt Gateway Campus Urban Revitalization Project in Hartford, Connecticut. To date, those efforts have not resulted in resolution of the Trust's claims. The Trust filed an objection to Colt Gateway, LLC's proof of claim.

**C. BySynergy**

BySynergy is an entity that is obligated to DTDF and the Trust. It is a debtor in a bankruptcy case pending in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Arizona, Case No. 2:08-bk-07680-RTB. Counsel for DTDF is taking the lead on enforcing the claims of the post-confirmation entities against BySynergy.

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**VI. PROFESSIONAL FEES**

With respect to professional fees, the Trustee continues to scrutinize each month the fee statements presented by professionals for USACM (Ray Quinney Nebeker (now Dorsey & Whitney)), Mesirov Financial Interim Management (“MFIM”), the Trust (including Lewis and Roca and Diamond McCarthy), and other post-confirmation entities and bankruptcy trustees. With respect to the Trust’s professionals, the Trustee deals directly with and receives complete satisfaction of his concerns from his lawyers and other professionals. All professionals are current as to the invoices for services to the Trust.

**VII. PROOFS OF CLAIM AND CLAIMS OBJECTIONS**

**A. Overview**

The deadline set pursuant to the Plan for the Trust to object to claims has expired.

As the Court is aware, the Trust has been working through all scheduled and filed claims to determine the Allowed and Disallowed Claims. All claims objections were resolved as of the July 17, 2012 omnibus hearing. The final allowed amount of creditor claims in the Trust is approximately \$203.8 million; \$789.8 million in claims have been disallowed. As claims were resolved, the allowed portions of claims were paid in the amount equal to the initial creditor distribution of 4.92% and the second creditor distribution of 3.88% (see below); all creditors with allowed claims have received both their first and second interim distributions.

**B. Interim Distribution Motion**

The Trust filed its Motion for an order authorizing the Trust’s initial interim distribution to allowed beneficiaries,<sup>38</sup> which motion was granted by the bankruptcy court. The Trust released the interim distribution in November 2009. That distribution equaled 4.92% of the allowed creditor claims. Reserves for unresolved and/or disputed claims have been established pursuant to the Trust’s motion and the Court Order approving the Motion. The Trust continues to receive and answer inquiries from lenders and creditors on the distribution. The Trust sought authority for the second interim distribution to distribute pro rata \$8 million, in two installments. The first was to creditors holding allowed claims of \$1 million or more and was approved by the court by its December 27, 2011 order. The Trust filed a motion to approve the balance of the second interim distribution which was approved by the Court on March 1, 2012. Checks for this second installment of the second interim distribution were mailed to creditors during the week of April 9, 2012 or as disputed claims were resolved and allowed.

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<sup>38</sup> A copy of the motion is posted on the Trust’s website.

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The Trust is preparing a motion to authorize a \$2 million interim distribution pro rata to holders of allowed claims. The Trust anticipates that a hearing will be scheduled before the end of the calendar year, and distribution checks will be transmitted as soon as legally permissible after the Court enters an order on the interim distribution motion.

**C. Contact Information**

For an inquiry on your proof of claim, or a change of address for an allowed claim, please contact:

Sierra Consulting Group  
 Brant Fylling  
 E-mail: [USACMTRUST@sierracgllc.com](mailto:USACMTRUST@sierracgllc.com)  
 Telephone 602-424-7020

For additional information, please refer to the website of the USACM Liquidating Trust: <http://usacmcucc.bmcgroup.com>. You may send an e-mail on a general inquiry to: [USAcommittee@lrlaw.com](mailto:USAcommittee@lrlaw.com).

**D. Compass v. LPG**

As indicated above, the Trust believes that the most efficient way to evaluate unsecured claims of Direct Lenders is after the applicable direct loan has been resolved, presumably through collection. A number of disputes are in litigation among the plaintiffs in lawsuits pending in the District Court, as well as the Lender Protection Group (the “LPG”) and other (collectively referred to as “LPG”) and Compass USA SPE, LLC, Compass Partners, LLC, and Compass Financial Partners, LLC (“Compass”), which have expanded to include certain named Direct Lenders and Compass’ officers and lender. Asset Resolution, LLC and Silar Advisors, LP and Silar Special Opportunities, LP have succeeded to the economic interests of Compass, with disputes over the validity and effect of that transfer. That litigation is generally managed by the United States District Court for the District of Nevada under Case No. 2:07-cv-00892-RCJ-GWF. The Trust is not a party to that litigation. Nevertheless, the litigation does adversely impact the Trust’s ability to evaluate claims.

Silar and now Asset Resolution through its trustee are parties to additional litigation with direct lenders, including case no. 2:09-cv-01832-RCJ-GWF. Judge Robert C. Jones ordered the action to be dismissed in favor of a counterclaim that may be filed in Case No. 2:07-cv-00892-RCJ-GWF. In connection with the litigation, Asset Resolution requested documents from the Trust, which responded to counsel with objections and concerns.

The litigation was scheduled for a jury trial in May 2010, and that trial date was postponed to November 2010, although appeals are pending from several of the district

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court's orders. A jury trial was conducted in November and December 2010. The jury in the case awarded compensatory and punitive damages against various defendants, including Compass, Silar, Asset Resolution and the principals of Compass. The Trust is not a party to the litigation and will not share in any recovery ultimately paid by the defendants.

**E. Asset Resolution LLC**

As noted above, Compass' lender Silar Advisors LP and Asset Resolution LLC filed suit against the Trust seeking to block the proposed distribution to allowed beneficiaries of the Trust. That complaint No. 09-01284-lbr alleged in part that the direct lender litigation in the District Court has denied Compass (and Silar) "the benefit of the bargain" Compass sought when Compass purchased USACM and the FTDF interests in the loan portfolio, along with servicing rights, default interest and late fees. Silar dismissed the complaint leaving Asset Resolution as the sole plaintiff. The Trust believed the complaint lacked any merit. The bankruptcy court denied Asset Resolution's request to delay of the proposed distribution to creditors with allowed claims at the October 19, 2009 hearing. USACM (the former Debtor) filed a motion to dismiss the matter, which motion was to be heard on February 5, 2010. The Trust filed a motion for summary judgment in the matter, which motion was fully briefed and ready for oral argument scheduled on April 1, 2010. Due to the Asset Resolution bankruptcy described below, both motions were continued by the bankruptcy court until May 11, 2010 for a status hearing. The trustee for Asset Resolution LLC sought a continuance but did not take a position in opposition to the motions. At that hearing, confirmed thereafter with written orders, the bankruptcy court granted both the Trust's motion for summary judgment and USACM's motion to dismiss the complaint. No appeal was taken.

Additionally, Asset Resolution LLC filed a voluntary chapter 11 bankruptcy case No. 09-16142 (AJG) in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York on October 14, 2009. Additional cases were filed by entities that had been created to hold assets after foreclosure of direct loans.<sup>39</sup> The Trust joined in a motion to transfer the venue of the Asset Resolution LLC bankruptcy case to the District of Nevada, a motion that was supported by a separate filing by the Office of the United States Trustee. The case was ordered transferred to Nevada on November 24, 2009, and became case No. 09-32824-BAM. Judge Markell heard certain interim or "first day" matters and entered interim orders.

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<sup>39</sup> Ocean Atlantic SPE LLC; CFP Anchor B SPE LLC; CFP Cornman Toltec SPE LLC; CFP Gess SPE LLC; Bundy 2.5 Million SPE LLC; Bundy Five Million SPE LLC; Fiesta Stoneridge LLC; Fox Hills SPE LLC; CFP Gramercy SPE LLC; Huntsville SPE LLC; Lake Helen Partners SPE LLC; 10 90 SPE LLC; Shamrock SPE LLC; and HFAH Monaco SPE LLC.

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Direct lenders sought relief from the stay to prosecute actions pending in the district court and sought withdrawal of the reference to the district court. A request to convert the case to chapter 7 (liquidation) or alternative request for appointment of a trustee was also filed. After a January 19, 2010 hearing, the United States District Court withdrew the reference of the Asset Resolution LLC case to the district court, under Judge Jones. Judge Jones converted the case to a case under Chapter 7 retroactively to January 19, 2010 and William A. Leonard, Jr. was appointed trustee. The interim chapter 11 order for debtor in possession financing was revoked. Notice of a creditors meeting was served and notice of a June 7, 2010 claims bar date provided. These orders and others are on appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

On December 31, 2009, Asset Resolution LLC filed suit in Nevada, case No. 09-01410-bam, against hundreds of direct lenders seeking a declaratory judgment of Asset Resolution LLC's rights as co-owner of loans and successor to USACM as loan servicer under a number of loans. The district court has since terminated both Compass and Asset Resolution LLC as the servicer on the acquired loans pursuant to its Order entered January 21, 2010. As to the 14 SPE debtors and the remaining loans, lenders were free to identify a replacement loan servicer by 51% vote. Funds held by Asset Resolution LLC from disposition of loans were to be turned over to the trustee. Appeals to the Ninth Circuit from these orders are pending. The district court has supervised the transition of loans to new servicers as well as efforts by the trustee for Asset Resolution LLC to liquidate its interests in loans and properties. Trial in this suit was held in November and December 2010 as noted above. Judgment was entered and appeal taken to the Ninth Circuit.

The district court recently entered an order approving a comprehensive settlement of many of the issues in this litigation. The details of that settlement are available from the public file and are more complex than the scope of this report permits.

The Trust continues to monitor these proceedings so as to be current with the status of the proceedings and any impact on the remaining outstanding loans where direct lenders that filed proofs of claim in the USACM bankruptcy may have an interest.

#### **F. Disbursing Agent Agreement**

The Trust and USA Capital First Trust Deed Fund, LLC ("FTDF") entered into a Stipulation Concerning Amended Disbursing Agent Agreement. The Court approved the parties' stipulation on June 29, 2007, so that the Trust will act as the disbursing agent for equity holders of FTDF if there is a distribution on the \$7 million FTDF unsecured claim, now that entity is liquidated. The bankruptcy court entered a final decree and order closing the FTDF case on October 12, 2007. The Trust was advised that the final distribution to the members of the Fund, along with their respective K-1's for 2006, was released to the members. In the transmittal to the Fund members, members were advised

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to address all further inquiries about the status of the Fund to the Trust. The Trust is attempting to answer these questions as best it can in light of not having prepared the distribution or K-1 information returns.

The Trust is the distribution agent for any additional distributions owed to members of FTDF. FTDF investors periodically request information from the Trust, which the Trust provides to the extent it has the information in its files as a result of turnover from FTDF, including the final FTDF tax return. It is unlikely that FTDF members will see a recovery on their remaining investment in that fund.

#### **G. General Inquiries**

The Trust periodically receives inquiry from lien creditors, borrowers or lenders on loans to be serviced by Compass or its successors. The Trust, as a courtesy, makes every effort to direct the inquiry to the appropriate person handling servicing of the loan. Similarly, the Trust periodically receives subpoenas, requests for production and other formal and informal discovery requests for review of the business records of USACM, some of which the Trust holds as successor to USACM. Again, the Trust cooperates with those discovery requests, at the requesting party's reasonable expense.

During the quarter, the Trust's counsel worked with the bankruptcy court staff to identify and resolve a variety of motions and adversary proceedings that had been filed during the course of the USACM jointly administered bankruptcy cases.

### **VIII. LOAN SERVICING ISSUES**

#### **A. Placer Vineyards**

The balances of the Notes by Placer County Land Speculators, LLC as Borrower to Direct Lenders on loans serviced by the Trust were as follows as of December 22, 2008 (the foreclosure date):

	<b>Placer 1</b>	<b>Placer 2</b>
Principal	\$31,500,000.00	\$6,500,000.00
Interest	15,183,487.95	4,134,138.22
Default Interest	9,111,393.85	1,035,761.89
Late Fees	2,334,174.40	531,706.91
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$58,129,056.20</b>	<b>\$12,201,607.02</b>

The Trust, as servicer, reports monthly to the Direct Lenders. Those reports are posted on the Trust's website. As previously reported in these reports, the Trust filed a complaint and a motion for appointment of a receiver for the Placer 1 Loan in the United States District Court for the District of Nevada on September 24, 2008 and assigned case

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no. 2:08-cv-1276. The case was assigned to United States District Judge Kent J. Dawson and United States Magistrate Judge Robert L. Johnston.

The receivership motion was heard by the Honorable Kent J. Dawson on December 3, 2008. At the hearing, Judge Dawson directed the appointment of Elli Mills as Receiver. The Trust thereafter worked with counsel for interested parties and Mr. Mills on entry of an appropriate order directing the appointment of a receiver. The District Court's order appointing the receiver was entered on December 16, 2008.

The Receiver subsequently investigated and made the decision to conclude the foreclosure sale, which had been continued to December 22, 2008. The Receiver directed a credit bid of \$8,404,030 at the December 22, 2008 foreclosure sale.

Prior to the appointment of a receiver, the Trust continued to work with interested Direct Lenders on issues concerning the Loan and the Property, including whether to take an appeal of the valuation of the Property for real estate tax purposes.

The Trust continues to work with the Placer 1 Receiver both with respect to the Trust's claims as servicer as well as in attempting to assist the Receiver in the performance of his duties.

One effect of the foreclosure was to extinguish the lien on the Property securing repayment of the Placer 2 Note. Accordingly, the sole potential source of recovery for the Placer 2 Lenders, in addition to any proofs of claim they may file in the USACM bankruptcy case, is the proof of claim filed by the Trust as servicer on the personal guaranties of Thomas Hantges and Joseph Milanowski. The Trust recently filed a Motion to allow the Placer II direct lender proofs of claim as allowed beneficial interests in the USACM Trust.

The litigation filed by the Trust concerning the Placer loan, in which the Receiver was obtained, remains pending before the District Court. The deadline to serve unserved defendants was continued to May 22, 2009. Because of the foreclosure, the Trust sought consent to dismissal of the Placer 2 Lenders as parties to the litigation. The Receiver became responsible to deal with the Placer Vineyards Development Group, LLC with respect to development of the Property. The Trust ceased reporting to the Lenders with respect to the Placer 1 and Placer 2 Loans after December, 2008, because the Placer 2 Loan no longer had collateral and the Placer 1 Loan was in the control of the Receiver, who is providing periodic reports. The Receiver's periodic reports are posted by the Trust on the Trust's website and there fore available to all of the Placer 1 (and Placer 2) Lenders.

The Receiver sought authority from the receivership court to borrow up to \$250,000 in interim financing to cover the expenses of the receivership. The Trust considered offering the funding in order to save expense for the receivership and to prevent concerns

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over having another lender looking to the property for repayment of a loan at a time when the Trust had made advances as servicer for property taxes and asserted a claim for unpaid servicing fees. Ultimately, although the receivership court approved the loan, the Trust Committee did not approve the Trust's service as interim lender. Accordingly, the Trustee did agree to extend \$100,000 of interim financing to the Receiver on a bridge basis while the Receiver sought more permanent financing. The Receiver sought authority for a replacement loan and in September 2009 repaid the advance by the Trust, with interest. The Receiver recently sought approval to borrow additional monies from the replacement lender to the Trust. The Trust is monitoring those proceedings to protect the status of the servicer advance in 2007 described above and a claim for sums advanced as servicer for legal fees and foreclosure expenses, as well as a servicing fee. The Receiver has advised the supervising court of what it believes may be potential claims against the Trust related to the servicing fees and servicer advance. The Trust, through its counsel, has been discussing the purported claims and as of release of this report, no claims have in fact been asserted against the Trust related to the servicing fees and/or servicer advance.

The Trust has provided copies of the Receiver's monthly reports on the Trust's website as a courtesy to the Receiver and a convenience to the Placer lenders. There is a separate link to the Placer filings on the Trust's website. Those reports indicate that the Receiver obtained authority to list the Placer property for sale with a broker; is considering consenting to revision of the development agreement for the property, with a corresponding revision to the Placer County Land Speculators, LLC operating agreement; settlement of environmental matters; and approval of reporting. The Receiver however has not been able to sell the underlying collateral as of this date.

The Receiver's periodic report indicates that significant developments on the settlement of litigation have been achieved. The Receiver is seeking to reduce the assessed value of the Placer property. The Receiver anticipates seeking approval of a \$2.6 million bridge loan to continue to hold the property, pay real estate taxes and the expenses of the receivership pending improvement in market value. The bridge loan would not provide proceeds to repay any sums to the Trust on account of servicer advances or the servicing fees and other claims.

## **IX. TRUST FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

A Trust financial statement showing the status of the Trust's finances as of August 31, 2012, has been provided to the Trust Committee. Additional financial statements will be prepared and forwarded to the Trust Committee as they become available.